

# LAGGARD IN GAS PROGRESS. NEW YORK MUST WAKE UP TO OVERTAKE CHEAP GAS CITIES

Gas Makers and P. S. Commission Letting Golden Opportunities Slip By.

GAS BILLS CAN BE CUT.

There Are Many Cash Saving Devices, but Consumers Are Denied Them.

By Sophie Irene Loeb.

**SIXTH ARTICLE.**  
The significant items in The Evening World's investigation as to the highest price charged for gas in New York, of any city, are summarized as follows:

There are various methods of making cheap gas other than the method employed in New York, but the corporations have lagged behind and have steadily increased the price and put forth every effort to maintain it.

The Public Service Commission's everlasting investigations without action to reduce the enormous price of gas is a matter of vital importance to the people.

While the gas corporations are willing, it is said, to change the present costly 22 candle-power method for a cheaper and more progressive British thermal process of making gas, they do not want to give the benefit of a lower price to the public commensurate with the actual saving in making the change.

Gas oil, which is a vital requisite for the making of gas, figures very largely in the cost, and, according to experts, this gas oil is sold to the gas corporations at artificial prices—prices that become arbitrary because they are largely controlled by the Standard Oil—and members of the Standard Oil Company also have interests in the gas corporations.

Nine hundred million gallons of this oil is sold in this country every year, of which New York State uses over 200,000,000 gallons.

This gas oil during the war was sold as high as 12 and 15 cents, and is now rated at 5 and 6 cents.

According to those who have studied the question, this gas oil, in accordance with market conditions, should be sold for less than 3 cents per gallon. But the oil interests control the situation to such an extent that they can set up an arbitrary figure and in the end the consumers must pay.

These 200,000,000 gallons of gas oil would be practically wasted if not used in the making of gas as no mechanism has been devised successfully to utilize this particular residual of oil.

**NEW YORK IGNORES MODERN DEVICES.**

There are ways and means which would waste considerably the waste of this gas oil and otherwise reduce the costs.

As has been stated in these columns, The Evening World does not presume to suggest any process to be employed in New York, nor does it go into the merits of the different processes as against each other. It only points to the fact that there are ways of making gas—ways that are utilized in other States for the lowering of prices, while this city has done nothing to reduce the costs.

Among these methods already set forth are the coke-oven gas and the "Dayton process."

The former is made from coke and produces enormous by-products which greatly reduce the cost of gas—in some sections as low as 10 cents per thousand feet.

The "Dayton process," as has been explained, requires but four gallons of gas oil and no other solid fuel, and can be made as a cost of about 35 cents per thousand cubic feet.

And now there is the Van Steenburgh system, which according to Dr. David T. Day, the well known international petroleum expert, is "the only radical improvement made in the gas manufacture since the invention of the water gas system" (the method used in New York).

Dr. Day was for over twenty years chief of the division devoted to mineral oils in the United States Geological Survey in the Department of Agriculture. Other experts have also endorsed this system.

This process, at the present price of oil, can turn out gas at a cost of 20 cents per thousand feet.

It is claimed that with 35 gallons of gas oil, 500 pounds of steam coal and 50 kilowatts of electricity, 40,000 feet of gas could be manufactured. And this gas would be a 22-candle power of 600 British Thermal Units, approximately the same as is now served in the City of New York.

Whether this or that process is the one to be utilized in New York is beside the question. The big fact is that no moves have been made by the gas corporations in the city, nor by the Public Service Commission, whereby improved mechanism and progressive economies would lessen the cost of gas and reduce the price to the consumer, as well as eliminate the antiquated methods operated in New York.

**THE GREAT FUTURE POSSIBILITIES OF GAS.**

In this connection some significant statements are made by F. C. Weber,

## "SEATS FOR ALL" IS RECEIVER'S PLAN ON SECOND AVENUE

Will Have Them, Chambers Promises, as Soon as Cars Can Be Built.

Charles E. Chambers, receiver for the Second Avenue Railroad Company, told the Transit Commission yesterday he had adopted a policy of "A seat for every passenger."

He promised to make it effective as soon as he had received 100 convertible one-man cars. He has forty now; the others are being built.

Mr. Chambers said so little English was known in the districts he served that he had to use colors and numerals to designate the destination of the cars.

Chairman of the Committee of Cooperation with Education Institutions of the American Gas Association:

"When gas was first used, more than 100 years ago, it had only one use, that of light in an open flame burner.

To-day it has over 1,000 listed uses among which may be mentioned kitchen ranges and water heaters, gas irons, laundry ironing machines, space heaters, hatching machines, crematoriums, hotel ranges and broilers, large automatic baking ovens, candy furnaces, metal melting pots, glass and china kilns, hot presses, jewelry manufacture, tire heaters, brazing tables, cork floor manufacture, unit gas manufacture for process work, annealing ovens, stereotype machines, bench furnaces, muffle furnaces, gas steel treatment furnaces, etc.

"The list is endless; new uses are being found each day. Any work, from very heavy to extremely high heats and the use of automatic heat treatment machinery, can be performed with gas.

"The olden day method of charging for gas is all wrong. The equitable way is to charge on the basis of the cost of money invested to supply the customer, and the service rendered the customer, and the commodity used by the customer.

"When such a system of charging becomes universal, the industrial use of gas will increase its already rapid pace and grow like a whirlwind.

"The gas business is in its infancy. By reason of the inherent ability to convert heat efficiently from the solid state to the gaseous and the many gas heat application advantages in the home and industry, which are becoming better known daily, the gas industry is bound to grow bigger than ever and there is a good field for us to grow with it.

"The job of a gas engineer calls for a real honest-to-goodness man. Probably more so than does the position of any other industry.

"The personal element of the men at the gas plant enters to a greater degree in the manufacture of gas than it does in any other utility or many manufacturing processes.

"Gas-making, cleaning and purifying machines, however, do not have any efficiency built into them; their results are largely dependent upon the gas management and operators.

**WHEN WORLD MAY HAVE TO DEPEND ON COKE FOR GAS.**

"The world is dependent upon the gas works for other things besides its gas. As the supply of anthracite fuel gives out, it will have to turn to coke for a clean, smokeless fuel.

"Coke is an makeshift for anthracite coal because it has a lower heat value than the present delivered anthracite. Until the recent development in which ammonia is made synthetically by the combination of nitrogen and hydrogen, the gas works formed the only commercial source of that important product, ammonia.

"The gas works to-day is the source of supply of xylol, benzol, toluol, naphthalene, phenol and anthracene. These names may not mean much to you, but the products are the starting point of a long list of chemical compounds used for medicines, dyes, photography, solvents, wood preservatives, disinfectants, explosives, paints, flavoring extracts, perfumes, paving, roofing, tanning, buildings, etc.

"These crude oil starting points are variously treated and changed chemically by manufacturers into very useful compounds for the world. The crudes may be extracted from the gas or from the coal tar. It does not pay the gas man to extract them, so they are usually obtained by the coal tar works, who treat and dispose of the coal tar purchased from the gas plant."

The above gives briefly what can be done in light of later knowledge, utilizing all the by-products and making as much as possible, but in which the New York City gas corporations have lagged.

**ACTOR GOLDFERS' FINALS TO-DAY.**

Final matches in the golfers' golf tournament at the Salisbury Club, near Westbury, L. I., are scheduled for to-day. Robert Ames, Otto Kruger, Frank Crummit and Hal Foster are survivors of Tuesday's field of thirty. The trophy is the Globe Theatre Cup, offered by Charles Dillingham. Cups for low gross and low net scores will be presented by Paul Lannin and Oscar Shaw.

## Great Costume Parade of Columbia Alumni Picturesque Feature of Graduation Week



### Sharks Battle With Whales in Jamaica Trip

Passengers Feed Victorious Threshers on Bananas Until Tarantula Ends It.

The United Fruit Line steamship *Tivives* came in from Kingston, Jamaica, and other ports to-day with a tale of thrasher sharks and whales.

From Saturday afternoon to Sunday night, passengers said, seventeen whales followed the ship. Then a lot of sharks came along, and a furious battle raged through the night. At dawn there wasn't a whale in sight, but the triumphant threshers were still following.

Passengers tossed bananas to the sharks, which seemed to be highly pleased. But after a while some of the women on board got nervous, saying it was an ill omen to be followed around by sharks. So Purser John Dervin made a fake pickaninny out of bananas and gunny sacks added a live tarantula and tossed it over. The sharks didn't like it. Anyway they quit the trail.

One of the passengers was Gen. Vasquez Cebo, head of the Government-owned railroad in Colombia, who has come to buy \$2,500,000 worth of railroad equipment.

**HE'D RATHER FACE "CHAMP" THAN WIFE.**  
SAYS PUGILIST

Secures Divorce on Ground That She "Abused, Bessed and Beat Him."

OMAHA, Neb., June 7.

Earl Puryear, bantamweight boxer, to-day has a divorce from Mrs. Grace Puryear, contingent, however, upon an investigation by the Juvenile Court.

Puryear testified in Domestic Court yesterday that his wife "abused, bessed and beat" him, and that he "would rather face a champion" than his wife. Mrs. Puryear was not in court and Puryear said he did not know where she was.

**SEWER GAS KILLS BOY WHILE ASLEEP**

He and Unconscious Pal Crawled Under Stoop of Apartment.

Edward Brenhise, sixteen, a painter of No. 319 Greenwich Street, was found dead and a fourteen-year-old boy unconscious from sewer gas under the stoop at the apartment house, No. 152 West 49th Street, at 6:45 A. M. to-day. They were poorly dressed and apparently had crawled under the stoop to sleep.

A rubbish collector called Policeman Collins of the West 47th Street Station, who sent to Flower Hospital for an ambulance. The doctor said the older boy had been dead for some time and took the other to the hospital, where it was said he might recover.

## Those Milk Gangs in the Night More Noisy Than Biggest Fight

When the Cans Begin to Rattle, It's Worse Than Any Battle, Complaints Poet.

Health Commissioner Royal S. Copeland has received a complaint in verse, bearing the signature of Francis J. Lowe, No. 118 West 101st Street, objecting to the noise made by employees of milk concerns in handling milk cans. The poem is called "Borden's Gang At Night," and is dedicated to the Commissioner of Health by the author. Dr. Copeland said he was sure the officials of the milk companies were opposed to the unnecessary noises around their stations, but he thought they were not always able to control their employees. The poem follows:

We've heard about the battle of the Boyne and Waterloo,  
We've heard about Thermopylae and Armageddon, too.  
The battle of the Marne must have been an awful sight,  
But there's not a battle in it with this Borden's gang at night!

They come along our city streets before the break of day  
With carts and cans and Sheffield's men and put us in dismay.  
They pick those heavy milk cans up and roughly throw them down  
And the noise my Lord, the noise, can be heard all over town.

I have been in many a boiler shop, and many a noisy place;  
I've often stood in narrow hearing men "shoot off their face."  
I've even heard that phonograph musical as it turns around,  
But for noise, hush off now, boys, to this Borden's gang in town.



26 Classes Took Part, Several Wearing Costumes Indicating Special Achievement.

The costume parade of Columbia alumni, the picturesque feature of the annual commencement exercises of the university was held yesterday afternoon.

Many classes of the alumni were dressed in costumes denoting some particular achievement. The class of '14 was dressed in white sailor ducks as representative of the famous year in which Columbia crews swept the river in the Poughkeepsie regatta; last year's class was dressed in dun-colored and carried shovels and pick-axes, with here and there a wheelbarrow, as emblematic of the first class to make the long projected stadium an actuality.

In all there were twenty-six classes in the parade. Those which had no special "achievement" to commemorate stuck to conventional lines, but there was variety. Colonial costumes were chosen by the classes of the '80's, and they stuck to their guns in spite of the heat in the life and drum march to the stands. Turkish tropics, blue kimonos, with paper hats, represented 1912 and 1906; 1909

**ARRIVES TO TELL ABOUT MAX OSER**

Family Friend Brings Confidential News to Rockefeller and McCormicks.

Saverio Datti, seventy, friend of the Rockefeller and McCormick families and extremely reticent to ship news reporters, arrived to-day on the Fabre Line steamship *Providence* from Mediterranean ports.

Though Mr. Datti declined to make any admissions save that he knew the aforesaid families, it was said by officers of the ship that he came to give the Rockefellers and McCormicks some confidential information about Max Oser, Swiss lawyer stable keeper who seeks to marry Miss Mathilde McCormick. Mr. Datti would not answer any questions as to this.

He is going to No. 691 Fifth Avenue, the home of Mrs. Hartley Dodge, a daughter of William G. Rockefeller, to remain several months. It was in Munich, in 1914, that he met members of the Rockefeller and McCormick families. It was said, and was of great aid to them in getting out of Bavaria at the outbreak of the World War.

The detectives said that when they arrested Stak they found \$1,800 worth of German marks and \$300 in United States currency in his possession.

When Stak was arraigned in Centre Street Police Station to-day he entered a plea of guilty. Bail was fixed at \$5,000, and Stak, unable to furnish it, was sent to the Tombs to await the action of the Grand Jury.

**TAKES POISON IN SODA.**

Girl Dissolves Mercury Tablets While Drinking at Fountain.

A young woman who said she was Anne Lehan, twenty-seven, a telephone operator, and who gave a fictitious address, is in a critical condition in Fordham Hospital, having swallowed dissolved bichloride of mercury tablets at a soda fountain at Third Avenue and Fordham Road, Bronx, last night.

The young woman, a white-haired, dropped tablets into soda she was drinking and soon began to writhe in pain. Traffic Patrolman John Davis was summoned and as he entered the store, he said, the girl was about to empty a box of mercury tablets into the remainder of her drink. Only a few tablets were found in the store.

The girl was taken to Fordham Hospital, where she was held for arraignment before the Federal authorities.

James K. Trimble is a financier of Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, June 8.—James Kelly Trimble is a son of the late James Trimble and is Vice President of Chandler & Co., bankers, Franklin Bank Building, here. He lives with his sister, Miss Helen Trimble, in an apartment house at No. 412 Walnut Street. He is also Secretary and director of the Philadelphia Fidelity Insurance Society Company in the same building as Chandler & Co. Miss Trimble declined to discuss her brother's marriage.

## MAN WHO STAGED ROBERTSON HOLDUP GIVEN \$200 FINE

Bailey Convicted Despite Woman's Acquittal—Gasn, Go-Between, Discharged.

(Special to The Evening World.)

FREEDHOLD, N. J., June 8.—John Bailey, who held up a party of guests in the home of Mrs. Sarah L. Robertson at Deal Beach last February, and William Gasn, who alleged that he acted for Mrs. Robertson in arranging with Bailey for the hold-up, were arraigned to-day for sentence before Judge Raul V. Lawrence, who presided at the trial two weeks ago.

Mrs. Robertson, which resulted in her acquittal of the charge of instigating the hold-up for the purpose of obtaining insurance money on her jewelry.

Prosecutor Sexton, who denounced the verdict in the case of Mrs. Robertson, said it nevertheless had an important bearing on the cases of Bailey and Gasn, who had pleaded guilty. If a jury had found that there was no prearranged hold-up, Bailey and Gasn could not be convicted of taking part in it.

Judge Lawrence disagreed with the prosecutor. He said that the verdict was just in the Robertson case because the State had failed to prove its charges and witnesses for the prosecution contradicted each other.

Gasn was discharged. The conspiracy charge against Bailey was dropped, but he was found guilty of the charge of robbery and was fined \$200 and placed on parole for three years. He was also ordered to repay \$25 he took from David Meyer of Long Branch, at the time of the hold-up.

**856 CHILDREN UNDER 13 SUICIDES WITHIN A YEAR**

Major Swan Says Many of These Ended Life to Relieve Families.

ATLANTIC CITY, June 8.

Major E. L. Swan of the United States Health Bureau told members of the Rotary Club at their weekly luncheon yesterday that in the last year 856 children under the age of thirteen had committed suicide.

He was talking on "The Boy Question," and said that the condition of the country had its effect on the younger generation, and that often when a poor man could not take care of his family one of the children, "in a spirit of knight errantry, takes his own life in an effort to aid his parents."

**TOURING CAR HAD 13 BOTTLES OF BOOZE**

Halted by Gun Fire of Customs Inspectors and Cop.

A touring car stopped early this morning beside a shed near the pier of the steamship *Susquehanna* of the United States Lines, in Hoboken, and as Customs Guards William J. Conran, R. Pandolfo and Edward A. Ritz and Police Sergeant William Palmer approached it the chauffeur put on speed to get away.

The four officers called to it to halt and upon refusal to do so opened fire on the car. Then the driver stopped and three men and thirteen bottles of liquor were found in the automobile. All were taken to the Barge Office, the men giving their names as E. Hall, Quartermaster of the *Susquehanna*, and H. Fisher and T. Smith, longshoremen of No. 330 Hudson Street, Hoboken. They made an unaccepting explanation as to the liquor and were held for arraignment before the Federal authorities.

**MEMORIAL TO 12TH'S DEAD.**

A tablet in memory of the 200 men of the 12th Infantry, N. G. N. Y., who made the supreme sacrifice in the World War will be unveiled with fitting ceremony to-night by Gen. George R. Dyer in the regimental armory at 623 Street and Columbus Avenue. The tablet is the offering of the Veteran Association of the 12th dates back to the Mexican War, having been organized in 1847.

Following the unveiling, Gen. Dyer will review the active regiment and the Veteran Association.

**STEWART OF KROONLAND FOUND DEAD IN HIS CABIN.**

Charles Simmons, 40 years old, Steward on the steamship *Kroonland* at pier 59, West 21st Street, was found dead to-day in his cabin aboard the vessel. Simmons, whose home was at 400 West 58th Street, was formerly a captain in the Canadian army and was a member of the Siberian Expeditionary forces.

**FOUR CONVICTED OF CARRYING LOADED REVOLVERS.**

John E. McLaughlin, of No. 354 West 14th Street, Manhattan; James Martin, of Belmont and Fulton Streets, Brooklyn, and Harold Luck, of No. 5 Woodhull Street, Hollis, L. I., were convicted before County Judge Haskell in Brooklyn today on charges of carrying loaded revolvers. They were remanded until Tuesday for sentence. It was charged that the men were on their way to load-up a second hand furniture store when they were arrested.

## MERCURY SOARING TOWARD 90, WITH SCANT RELIEF SEEN

Record Established Yesterday With 87—Thunder Showers Probable Here

The heat was one degree greater at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon than it was at the same time yesterday, the mercury having reached the 86-degree mark and manifesting a tendency to climb still higher.

There was a steady increase in heat from 11 o'clock, the thermometer at that time registering 81 degrees. It was at 82 degrees at noon and then in the succeeding hour leaped three degrees. When the 85 mark was reached, the mercury hung there, apparently only waiting a moment when the weather man wasn't looking to give another upward jump.

The bureau officials said that it was not at all unlikely that the sun would score a 90 in their books before the day was done. The record of yesterday was 87 degrees.

There are chances that local thunder showers will come to-night or to-morrow, but aside from temporarily lowering the temperature they will not materially affect conditions. There is not much likelihood of change in the next thirty-six hours.

The mercury began climbing at 4 o'clock this morning, when it was at 71. An hour later it had gone up a degree, and still another at 8 o'clock. It was 75 at 9 o'clock, 78 at 10 and in the next hour rose three degrees.

New York was the hottest place yesterday of any in the country where the weather bureau maintains official thermometers.

For the past thirty-three years the average temperature for June 7 has been 65 degrees, but yesterday New York's 87 degrees had close competition from Denver and St. Louis with 86 and Chicago with 81.

Duncan Preston, forty-eight, fell from a third-story window of No. 234 West 75th Street at 10:45 o'clock last night and was instantly killed. He had half undressed for comfort and was seated on a front window sill when he lost his balance or was overcome by the heat, which he felt very much, his brother Frederick said.

A witness, said to be Dan McKerrick, the pugilist promoter, passing the house where Preston, striking the high stone stoop, had dropped to the area, telephoned for the police. Frederick E. Preston, manager of the Emerson Drug Company, said his brother was in business. The Medical Examiner ordered the body removed to the police station at West 68th Street.

Miss Gertrude Banford, thirty-one, No. 61 Cambridge Place, Brooklyn, was overcome by heat at Ouderdonk and Myrtle Avenues, Ridgewood, Queens, yesterday afternoon. She was carried into a store by two women friends. Dr. Veller of the Wyckoff Heights Hospital attended her. She insisted upon going home to die.

Della Driscoll, sixty-six years old, who said she had no home, was taken to Bellevue Hospital last night from No. 205 East 14th Street, after having been overcome by the heat.

**CONVICT SWINDLER ON WORLD EVIDENCE**

Used Want Ad. Columns Fraudulently—May Get Five Years.

Robert J. Griffo, thirty-eight of No. 214 East 13th Street, pleaded guilty before Judge Nott in the Court of General Sessions to-day to an indictment charging grand larceny in the second degree which was found on evidence presented to the District Attorney by The New York World. Sentence will be pronounced June 16, and as Griffo has been convicted before he stands an excellent chance of spending five years in Sing Sing Prison.

Griffo used the want ad. columns of The World and other newspapers for the purpose of swindling people with small sums of money to invest in so-called "Business Opportunities." He obtained \$700 from Charles Krome of Jersey City last November and \$270 from Joseph Karasak of No. 151 East 14th Street, and other persons, who complained to The World.

The swindler was trapped and arrested. He has been a persistent offender for years, using different names and addresses. In 1905 he was sentenced to Elmira Reformatory and in 1915 he served a sentence of sixty days in the Workhouse.

**TOTH MORE CONFIDENT OF SWIMMING CHANNEL**

BOSTON, June 8.—Charley Toth, the distance swimmer who will attempt to cross the English Channel this summer, said he felt even more confident of success to-day as a result of the manner in which he completed a swim of fourteen miles in the harbor and bay yesterday. He was in the water four hours two minutes and thirty seconds. This was the fastest time ever recorded over the course from the inner harbor to Graves Light.

Toth used a frogskin stroke most of the way. For the first leg of the swim, to Deer Island, he was forced to fight cross currents. During the entire swim the temperature of the water ranged from 45 to 50 degrees.

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Halted by Gun Fire of Customs Inspectors and Cop.

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# TETLEY'S

Makes good TEA a certainty

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The ten-cent package says: "Let's get acquainted." Tetley's Orange Pekoe Blend will suit you to a TEA. Enough for thirty fragrant cups— isn't that a lot for a dime?

Also in quarter, half and one-pound sizes.